

# Utah Numismatic Society

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## MAY'S AGENDA

- Greetings - Larry Nielsen
- Mini Exhibit— UNS Proof Sets
- News & Views— TBA
- Coin Quiz— TBA
- Spotlight— TBA
- Refreshments— Jan Nyholm



## The Mint Master

May 2015

Volume 62 / Issue 5

## Presidents Message

Hello all -

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY" Well, another year has gone by, and not only the club, but all of us are another year older. Again this year we will be having birthday gifts for everyone in attendance and also special refreshments too, so don't be late.

Thanks to Kelly Finnegan for his insight on our medals and how they are made. Also thanks to Don Swain on doing a great job as medals chairman (for many years) and having our 2015 medal prepared. The winning design was very appropriate, celebrating the 100th year of Dinosaur National Monument east of Vernal here in Utah. Following last month's meeting I did a show in Vernal and picked up some information regarding the Monument which I will bring to this month's meeting. Again kudos for Kelly and Don.

This month, being the club's birthday, we will have on display the 'UNS' Type Set and also our complete set of club Proof Sets in their new cases. Don't miss this meeting.

We have asked Bob Campbell to speak about our Type Set. We will also have Alvin Rust tell us how he got started in coins, share his stories about our type set and tell us about his tenure as past President of the UNS plus his years as a coin dealer. Al has been a strong support for our club and as mentioned, served as President. He was one of the first people I would go to to discuss coins and has been a great friend for over 50 years.

Soooo, see you all May 12th, bring a friend and don't be late.

Larry N Nielsen  
President

## May 12th Meeting Agenda

The UNS will celebrate its birthday this month with birthday presents for all those in attendance.

We will have special displays and both Bob Campbell and Alvin Rust will be speaking about the club's history.

This is a special meeting so don't forget to come early and enjoy the festivities.



# 1933 St. Gaudins Double Eagle

## Gray Sheet Headline

### **“GOVERNMENT MUST RETURN 1933 SAINTS”**



Page 2

The Mint Master

## Feature Story - 1933 \$20 Gold

The Headline on the 'Gray Sheet' dated April 24 read "Government Must Return 1933 Saints!" It went on to state that the CSNS Convention bourse floor was abuzz about the ruling. This could possibly turn out to be one of the most significant stories of 2015, but there will probably be additional litigation and appeals before you see any one of the 10 coins below to be present on the auction floor. The brief article went

on to state that the family of Israel Switt has been declared the rightful owners of the 10 1933 dated double eagles which were confiscated by the government over a decade ago. Switt's daughter and her two sons delivered them to the treasury in order to have them authenticated after discovering them in a long locked safe-deposit box. Unfortunately the government refused to return them stating that they were

obtained illegally and that they were government property. Subsequently judicial action taken by the government ensued at which time they were found to be government property and would not

be returned. The recent ruling by the U.S. 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia ruled 2 to 1 that the Langford family is the rightful owner. They are now in the process of getting the coins returned, which may not be as easy as it may sound. The overturned ruling is based upon a technicality requiring the government to either return the coins or bring a judicial civil procedure within 90 days which the government failed to do.

Speculation during the convention was predominately 'What If'? As you know the only legal 1933 Saint, the King Farouk specimen sold for \$7.59 million. If 10 more were to become available what would their individual price be? One million, two million, or much more? And how would the existing example value change?

The other recent interesting case involving a confiscated coin which recently was given private ownership to a private individual was the 1974-D Aluminum Lincoln Cent which is presently unique. This coin was pulled from a Heritage







## 1933 Double Eagle (Continued)

auction pending judicial judgment and now will it soon find its way back to the auction block.

These two coins have not been the only examples of government intervention in recent years. When the 1969-S Double Die Lincoln was discovered the government confiscated and destroyed several examples. And as we now know they are authenticated and appear at auction almost every year with one example bringing over \$100,000! There was similar talk regarding the copper 1943 cents although to my knowledge none were ever confiscated.

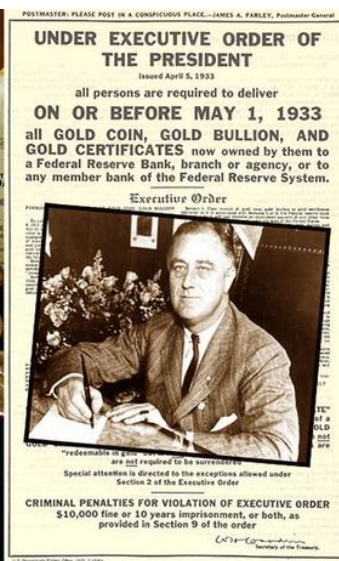
Other coins falling into this category include the famous 1913 Liberty Head Nickel of which only five are known and generally accepted as being coined by midnight minters and never authorized. Essentially they should fall under similar

confiscation orders. Finally the 1964 Peace Dollar is considered illegal to own and according to the Mint, all were melted. Most numismatists do not believe this and feel that there may be as many as half a dozen hiding in collections. I have

deal stating that the only person he could ever tell or show them too would be his wife otherwise he would most assuredly have the Secret Service soon knocking at his front door. I also heard about the existence of one located in Houston while working for Heritage but that never proceeded much beyond the rumor phase.

There are other examples too, technically all of the commonly traded pattern coins of the mid to late 19th century fall into the potentially illegal category but fortunately none have ever been confiscated.

Personally I believe that the literal millions of dollars spent by the government of our taxpayer dollars to recover these illegal coins is a tremendous waste of our money. Keep tuned to see what happens. **Doug Nyholm**



never seen one however I spoke to one well-known dealer who told the story that many years ago he was offered two of them. He actually held one in each hand and seriously considered the price at that time of \$10,000 each. He turned down the



## Eric P. Newman Part VI (Mormon Currency)

There were several very interesting Mormon & Utah pieces of currency recently auctioned as Part VI of the Eric P. Newman collection by Heritage in Chicago last week.

Two very notable items were a complete denomination set of Lithograph Proofs of the Salt Lake City National Bank notes. Although not a discovery item they have been off the market and virtually unknown since 1908. Obviously they had never been plated or photographed and the notations in pencil on the back of the \$1 note indicates that they sold for a set in 1908 for the amazing sum of \$10. The \$3 was known by myself but I had never seen this denomination and the only known photo was in Al Rusts book in black and white. All of these notes are rare.

Also in the auction was a Proof William S. Godbe \$1 note which up until this auction was unknown to the collecting fraternity and presently considered unique. The only previously known Goodbe note was the \$2 denomination.



Prices realized for the above notes are -

\$1—\$2820.00    \$2—\$2820.00    \$3—\$4465.00    \$5—\$2350/00  
\$10—\$3525.00    And for the Goodbe \$1—\$5405.00





## Mormon Currency (Continued)

Other significant Mormon currency items includes those pictured at right.

There were two types of Deseret Currency Association currency in the auction. These were referred to as 'Moo Money' as they were the only currency ever issued in the United States which were backed by livestock. The early type was hand signed by Brigham Young and is one of the rarest types of Mormon Currency. The second type was the more common and later issued but still quite scarce.

There was an example of the always popular California Salt Lake Mail Line \$1 note. It was catalogued as a signed remainder and is a very picturesque multi-color early note with a great vignette of a stagecoach.

Two very scarce Kirtland items were also included in the auction and brought very strong prices. The first being a Counter-signed or re-issued \$1 and the other being a similar re-issued \$3. These denominations of counter-signed notes are rarely seen.

Doug Nyholm

Deseret

\$3

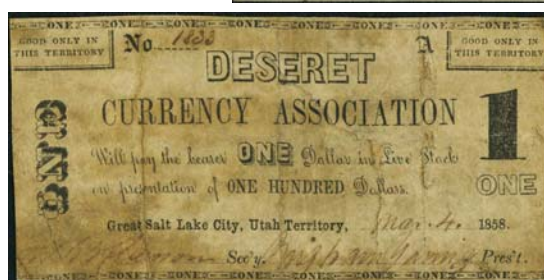
\$4230.00



Deseret \$1

Brigham Young Sig.

\$11,750.00



Calif. Salt  
Lake Mail  
Line

\$1

\$16,450.00



Kirtland

\$3

Counter  
Signed

\$22,325.00



Kirtland

\$1

Counter  
Signed

\$23,500.00





## 2015 Lincoln Cent

LaVar Burton was the first to produce a 2015 cent at our last meeting and was paid \$1 by Doug Nyholm.

Don Swain also produced two 2015 Dimes.



## May Quiz— What do you know about fineness of our coinage?

1. What is the silver fineness of a 1794 Silver Dollar?

- A. .800      B. .925      C. .8294      D. .900

2. What is the silver fineness of an 1852 Trime?

- A. .900      B. .500      C. .750      D. .300

3. What is the silver fineness of a 1944 Jefferson nickel?

- A. .125      B. .750      C. .900      D. .350

4. What is the silver fineness of the inner core of a 1966 Kennedy Half?

- A. .209      B. .900      C. .500      D. .400

5. What is the gold fineness of a 1795 Half Eagle?

- A. .900      B. .8294      C. .9167      D. .990

### BONUS QUESTION

Are the current \$50 Gold Bullion Eagles the same or different fineness as the original \$20 St. Gaudens Double Eagles?

## UNS 2015 Schedule of Events

May - UNS Birthday Party

June - Youth Night

July - Picnic

August - Guest Speaker

September - Guest Speaker

October - UNS Auction

November - Guest Speaker

December - Christmas Dinner





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# A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MEMBER DAVE BLACKHURST !!!

THE UNS WISHES TO OFFER A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO DAVE BLACKHURST. DAVE RENEWED HIS ANNUAL AD IN THE MINTMASTER AS WELL AS PAID HIS DUES IN OLD UNUSED STAMPS. AND HE WENT WAY BEYOND BY DONATING A TOTAL FACE VALUE OF THESE MINT STAMPS OF \$163.99! IF YOU SEE DAVE GIVE HIM A BIG THANK YOU.

THESE WILL BE USED FOR MOST OF 2015 FOR MAILING COSTS OF THE MINT MASTER, THE ONLY DOWNSIDE IS THAT YOUR EDITOR WILL HAVE TO LICK ALL OF THEM. THANKS DAVE.

## Editors Message—

This is the largest Mint Master we have ever published. There are a number of great ads from both local and national originations. The news articles are also great and again we have a wonderful article from Allan Schein and as always an outstanding YN column from Phil Clark.

I more or less put together the Mint Master myself but there seems to be added interest by many of you especially new contributors. I urge any of you to try your hand at penning an article of something that interests you or even a short paragraph of a recent find or a special addition to your collection.

There is some exciting news regarding the 1933 Saints. I am not holding my breath but I do think it would be fantastic if these rarities were made

available to collectors. I have always wondered why our government has spent so much time and money in attempting to recover a handful of coins while others are seemingly ignored. It has always struck me that our tax money could be much better spent on other endeavors but then again it seems the way of the world to waist taxpayer dollars.

In regard to the 1933 Saint I have read over the years that several have been confiscated and summarily destroyed, possibly at least six, maybe more.

I also believe that in addition to the 10 currently under litigation that others do exist, hiding in some vault or collection just waiting for an opportunity to come fourth.

The other interesting coin which was once considered counterfeit or created illegal-

ly by midnight minters is the 1969-S Double Die Lincoln. When these were first discovered several were confiscated by the Secret Service and destroyed. Their original owners were never confiscated for any value financially even thought now examples have sold for ten's of thousands of dollars. Somethings just seem to be a waist and totally un-



fair.

I went hiking to one of my 'bucket list' peaks recently and had my friend take a great picture as seen above.

10 hours roundtrip!

Doug Nyholm

# CENTRAL STATES

## CHAMPIONS OF NUMISMATIC EXHIBITS

By Allan Schein

Numismatic exhibits are an educational addition to any coin show, and it's always nice to see new categories of coins, tokens and medals we were unaware of, or minimally familiar with. At our local Utah shows there are always a few hard core exhibitors that go to great effort to share with show attendees their passion for a particular coin series or the pride of a collection.

This past week, April 20-25, 2015, the Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS) conducted their annual 76th Anniversary Convention at the Renaissance Schaumburg (Illinois) Convention Center and hotel. The bourse includes nearly 400 dealers from around the country, dozens of speaking and educational seminars, book signings for recently published numismatic authors' works and the most extensive presentation of Numismatic exhibits of any event in the nation. I believe the number of exhibit cases this convention totaled 193 in 9 distinct categories. The experts judging exhibits are ANA certified and trained numismatists, collectors and specialists in their individual fields, and travel to Schaumburg, a northern suburb of Chicago, from all corners of America. This year, exhibitors from 11 different states presented, and the range of interest was absolutely spectacular.

At the conclusion of judging, an awards breakfast is held for all exhibit participants with three places awarded to each category. In addition, a Peoples' Choice award and Best Of Show is awarded. The award plaques were a complete surprise to me as a novice exhibitor. Beautifully made rectangular clear Lucite trophies, approximately 5" x 8", with a colorful inner plate specifying the exhibit category, convention date and a gold American Eagle in each. First place included a 2015 1/2 oz gold coin, second place a 1/4 oz and third place a 1/10th oz gold. Likewise, the other awards included similarly produced trophies. After the awards, every exhibitor was gifted a certificate of appreciation and a 1-oz silver round. Throughout the convention, exhibitors were allowed access to the bourse for all dealer hours. Other perk's included an appreciation dinner at the excellent Italian Restaurant Magianno's and a filling meal at the awards breakfast. The atmosphere was one of fun and camaraderie with fellow collectors and exhibitors. It couldn't have been more professionally organized and run, in my opinion. Every courtesy was extended to all in attendance, and an incredibly hospitable friendly sincere group did everything possible to make the experience a positive fun event. They succeeded completely.





First Prize winner Dany Rothfield with one of his three prizes.



Dany Rothfield with a second place award.

CSNS is a conglomeration of 13 states in the north central region of the USA, and overall the third largest numismatic organization in the USA after the American Numismatic Association (ANA) and Florida United Numismatics (FUN). But when it comes to educational exhibits, it's my understanding that they rank as number one.

The 9 categories for exhibits are:

- A) U.S. Coins
- B) Foreign Coins prior to 1500 A.D.
- C) Foreign Coins after 1500 A.D.
- D) Medals
- E) All U.S. Paper Money
- F) All Foreign Paper Money
- G) Tokens
- H) Miscellaneous
- I) Junior (Age 17 & Under)

In addition to the competitive categories, there is a non-competitive category for educational purposes.

The judging as mentioned is performed by trained experienced personnel, and is a specialty in itself. ANA Chief Judge Joseph E. Boling attended as the training instructor, and held a certification seminar to assure all judges were properly versed in the ANA standards.

At the conclusion of the exhibits display period, participants were given the opportunity to collect the actual judges score sheets for review and instruction on how to improve their presentations for future showings.

The following is a list with maximum possible scores awards for each of the individual judging criteria, along with what is to be considered during judging.

**TITLE: (5 points)**

The title should be obvious. There should be an explanation of what the exhibit intends to show.

**BASIC NUMISMATIC INFORMATION (15 points)**

The numismatic specifications of the exhibit; items should be described to the extent needed by the exhibit's scope to answer the questions of another numismatist. Examples: mint, mintage, composition, dimensions, designer, engraver, variety.

**SPECIAL NUMISMATIC INFORMATION (15 points)**

Enough additional information should be given to answer the questions of the general viewer. Examples: historic, biographic, geographic, economic and artist data.

**CREATIVITY AND ORIGINALITY (10 points)**

The exhibit should be novel and imaginative.

**ATTRACTIVENESS (10 points)**

The exhibit should be neat, well designed and eye catching. The color should be pleasing and effective.

**BALANCE (10 points)**

The numismatic items, information and related items should be balanced and related to the scope.

**COMPLETENESS (5 points)**

Is the material as shown in the exhibit COMPLETE insofar as it is related to the title of the exhibit? Consider the availability of the material and/or space limitations.

**DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY (10 points)**

The exhibit should show dedication to collecting. The numismatic material or the related information was difficult to assemble or to present. Examples: multiple rare pieces, new research, a collection that took years to assemble.

**CONDITION (10 points)**

The numismatic material should be the best that is reasonably available to the exhibitor, who may make a statement about the condition of individual items or the overall exhibit.



### RARITY (10 points)

Rarity is judged by the number of like pieces believed to exist, not by the value of individual pieces.

### TOTAL SCORE

Judges comments are allowed. Suggestions are often made for improvement or to commend an exhibitors efforts.

As a first time exhibitor, I personally did not fare all that well with an exhibit about Mexico's Caballito Peso, a display I assembled to support a talk and book signing for my recent work on the coin series. But it was a great learning experience, and judges and fellow exhibitors all offered suggestions on how to improve it for my next exhibit. One suggestion that I think was informative was to attend an ANA summer seminar in June which focuses on the specifics of exhibiting. For those of you that have never attended any of these seminars, each summer the ANA has two summer sessions in Colorado Springs with a wide variety of subjects available to further our numismatic knowledge. They are fun and informative, attended by professional numismatists and the casual collector alike. It's in a beautiful location surrounded by a magnificent mountainous backdrop, with an opportunity for numerous other activities while attending. In between the two seminar sessions is a coin show with dealers and collectors from around the nation, many who bring material to sell, trade or simply to show.

The photos attached are just a sample of the wide range of material exhibited at this CSNS convention. There are collectors in Utah who have some unique items that I am sure would be of interest to our broader national community. It's worth considering an attempt at exhibiting; if not at a huge event like the central States or FUN, certainly at our next local show here in June.



First prize winner Diana Jellinek with her award and certificate for the exceptional display of EXPLoder CONTROL TOKENS, a 7 case presentation of Company Store Trade Money.

## Rise and Fall of Company Store Trade Money













Young Numismatist Adrian Jellinek on set-up day with his second place six case exhibit for "The Evolution of U.S. Dime Types Through A Selected Set From 1807 To Present". An exceptional display.

With regard to my own exhibit, I won nothing but friends and the respect of my fellow exhibitors. I achieved a perfect score in one category, near perfect in several others and lower scores in many. But I learned a considerable amount, and it opened doors I never knew existed. Creating a competitive numismatic exhibit is so much more sophisticated an endeavor than I ever realized. Just placing an assortment of coins and photos into a case doesn't do it. After what I saw, there are collectors that present at an elite level, having studied, collected, designed and thought through their displays to such a high level and for so many years, I almost have to compare it as equivalent to an Olympic athletes accomplishments. CSNS certainly had numerous Champion Numismatic Educational Exhibitors displaying at their 2015 convention. Award or no award, every person that participated accomplished the education committees desired result of teaching us all something new and different, and added a valuable dimension to an exceptionally well run and supported numismatic event.

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Photos courtesy of Diana Jellenik



## About Us

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## UNS MEDALS ON DISPLAY AT LAST MONTHS MEETING





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## Selected Highlights from The Eugene H. Gardner Collection, Part III



1795 S-78 Plain Edge Cent  
MS65 Red and Brown  
High Condition Census



1799 S-189 Cent, AU Details  
Tied for Second Finest Known  
Joseph Mickley's Own Example



1823 N-2 Cent, MS61 Brown  
Key Large Cent Issue  
Nearly Condition Census



1842 N-1 Small Date Cent, PR65 Red  
The Finest Known 1842 Proof  
From the Parmelee and Mougey Collections



1848 N-19 Cent, PR64  
Red and Brown  
The Earle-Ryder Specimen  
Among the Finest of This Rarity



1839 No Drapery Half Dime  
PR65 Cameo  
High Condition Census Example  
Tied for Finest Certified



1796 JR-4 Dime, MS66 Prooflike  
Among the Finest Surviving Examples  
An Important First-Year Type Coin



1798/97 Dime, MS65  
16 Stars Reverse  
Among the Finest Certified



1802 JR-4 Dime, MS62  
Full Prooflike Surfaces  
Ex: Pittman; Condition Census  
Example



1805 Dime, JR-2, 4 Berries  
MS67★  
Incredible Luster and Preservation  
Tied for the Finest Known



1829 Curl Base 2 Dime, VF30  
Great Rarity Among  
Capped Bust Dimes  
High Condition Census Example



Amazing 1845-O Dime, MS69  
The Stickney-Clapp-Eliasberg Coin  
The Only Seated Dime  
So Graded at PCGS



1871-CC Seated Half Dollar, MS64  
Finest Certified by Two Points  
Ex: Hawn-Pryor-Battle Born



1874-CC WB-101 Arrows Seated Half  
Rare Gem Example, Prooflike Obverse  
Ex: Eliasberg-Stellar



1845 Seated Liberty Dollar, PR66  
Perhaps 15 Known Examples  
Tied for Second-Finest, Ex: Sweet



1842 Seated Liberty Dollar, PR65  
Tied for Finest-Certified  
Only Eight Examples Traced



1848 Seated Liberty Dollar, PR66  
Very Rare Early Proof, 12 Examples Traced  
Second-Finest Certified



1857 Seated Liberty Dollar, Astounding MS66  
Renowned Business Strike Rarity  
Ex: David Akers



1851 Seated Dollar, PR64 Cameo  
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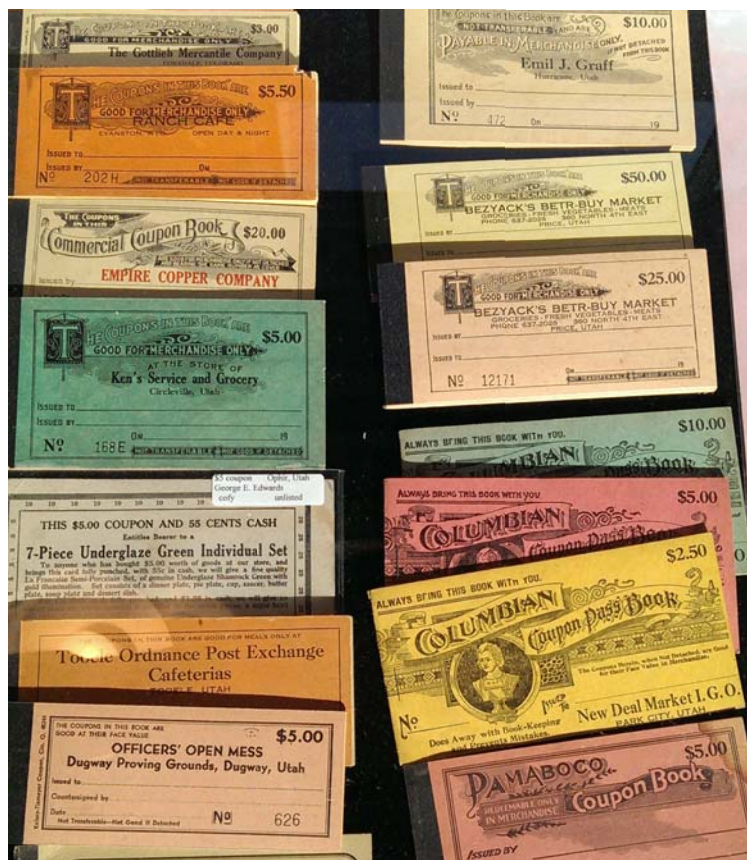
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Strong prices paid.



# Quiz Answers

## Question 1

.8294

## Question 2

.750

## Question 3

.350

## Question 4

.209

## Question 5

.9167

Although the original specifications in 1794 called for the fineness of our silver coinage to contain .8294 of silver. Realistically most early coins were much closer to .900 fineness as it was very technically difficult for the operations of the fledgling mint to accurately refine silver to that exacting specification. Therefore, not considering the adjustments that the early planchets went thru, most coinage contained excess silver making their intrinsic value slightly higher than specified to the point many, if not most, actually exceeded their face value in the silver they contained.

## 2015 UNS Officers & Board Members

### Officers

Larry Nielsen - President

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Richard Blaylock

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801-







# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



## Prizes & "Buy of The Month"

Darin Lee - Curator

### Youth Prize

Coin Grab Bag + US Coins Black Book

### On-Time Prize

1962 Proof Franklin Half

### Member Prize

1923 Peace Dollar

### "Buy of the Month"

I will not be in town for the May meeting so Robie Cagle has kindly offered to take care of the prize drawings.

I do not have a Buy-of-the-Month yet, but I may just have one of the member bring something they can sell for a good price.

There will also be a nice "Birthday" prize for everyone in attendance. They will be able to pick one of two different prizes.

### Other Prize Drawings:

US Marshals Commem Half UNC  
US Marshals Commem Half Proof  
2015 Silver Eagle  
Silver Bicentennial 3-coin set  
1966 Canadian Silver Dollar  
1923 Large Note Silver Certificate  
Walker-Style 1/2 oz. Silver round  
Walker-Style 1/2 oz. Silver round  
1982 Washington Commem Silver Half UNC  
1986 Liberty Commem Silver Dollar Proof  
2005 State Quarter Silver Proof set  
2009 Silver Eagle



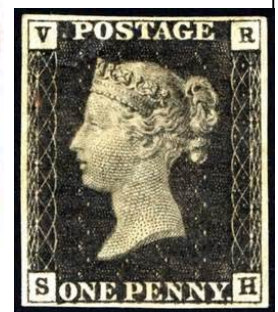


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## Phantom Coins ???

1958/7 Lincoln  
1942/1-S Mercury  
1918/7 Mercury  
1931 SLQ  
1936/29 Mercury



## Coins That Aren't

I have had conversations with a good number of collectors and dealers over the years. I am always amazed and the depth of knowledge many of my colleagues have both regarding the tremendous amount of historical information about just about every coins you have ever read about and also the many stories about coins you have never heard about.

There is the 1958/7 overdated Lincoln cent. Now this has never been seen in the mainstream and the only reference I have ever seen is in Walter Breens Encyclopedia. There is a picture of this coin which I believe is very intriguing and looks good to me. But, no present numismatists recognize it as an actual overdate. This is akin to the 1959 Wheat Back cent. Yes there are pictures but no certification service will dare to touch it.

Then there are the other coins

which fall into this same category. I have discussed with more than one collector who has seen or owned a Mercury Dime which they swear is a 1942/1 San Francisco minted overdate. It makes sense that it could exist after all both Denver and Philadelphia created one. Also I have heard of a 1918/7 overdated Mercury. Another possibility since both a nickel and quarter of this overdate exist. This item is not just speculation but numismatists again swear that they have seen in person this coin.

Going forward, both in his book and speaking to the late Jay Cline, he speculates that even though one may not presently exist at least die trials for a 1931 Standing Liberty Quarter could have at one time existed or possibly may still be hiding somewhere.

Getting back to odd Mercury dimes there is the 1936/29 over-

date. There are pictures of this on in the Cherrypickers Guide and it has been sold at auction but no mention or even a footnote exists in the Red Book or any other guide. Why? Finally, the 1964 Peace Dollar. Denials everywhere that all were melted but rumors abound about its illegal existence.

There are many more of these phantom coins only spoken of around the water coolers.

Have you heard of any or do you have your own stories? If so I would very much like to hear your story.

Doug Nyholm



# YOUNG NUMISMATISTS



## EARLY RETALIATION FOR THE DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 1941 ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR,

### A BRIEF HISTORICAL LOOK AT THE DOOLITTLE TOKYO RAIDERS



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The Mint Master

The devastating surprise attack on Pearl Harbor by the naval air forces of Japan in the early morning hours of December 7, 1941 left the nation angry, dismayed, shocked, and seeking revenge and retaliation. The serious damage to the Pacific Fleet, resulting from the attack, limited the ability of the United States to counter Japan's rapid successes in the Pacific theater and increased the sense of doom and gloom. Nobody wanted to retaliate more than President Roosevelt and to that end, on Dec. 21, 1941, he asked for a plan which, according to Lt. Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold, Chief of the Army Air Forces (AAF), would *"bring home to Japan proper, in the form of a bombing raid, the real meaning of war."* By the end of January, Lt. Col. James Doolittle, special assistant to Arnold, and a Navy Capt. Francis Low, a submariner on the staff of Admiral King, the Navy Commander in Chief of the US Fleet, independently concluded that a retaliatory attack was possible using a modified B-25 Mitchell medium bomber with a 3000-bomb load, taking off from an aircraft carrier 400 miles east of Japan. Modified to carry more fuel, the aircraft could attack their targets in Japan and safely recover in unoccupied areas of China. The plan was approved and the creation of the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders began.

One of Doolittle's first tasks was to review the credentials of all of the B-25 bomb groups. Based on his review, he selected the 17<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Medium), assigned anti-submarine patrol duty and stationed at Pendleton in Oregon. The 17<sup>th</sup> consisted of the 34<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, 95<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadrons and the 89<sup>th</sup> Reconnaissance Squadron. The group commander was notified by Doolittle that he had selected the group for a very hazardous mission requiring great skill and the group received orders on Feb. 3 transferring it to Columbia Army Air Base. While on their way to Columbia, the aircraft were diverted to Minneapolis by Doolittle for modifications and arrived at Columbia on Feb. 16. Doolittle arrived a day or two later and asked for volunteers for a hazardous top secret mission. When the entire 17<sup>th</sup> Bomb

Group volunteered, the three bomb squadron commanders were tasked with selecting 24 crews (80 men) and 60 enlisted support personnel. Feb. 28, 1942 saw the arrival of the aircraft, crews, and support personnel at Eglin Field in Florida. Located in a rather remote and sparsely populated area; Eglin with its auxiliary fields, bombing and gunnery ranges and proximity to the ocean for over water navigation training was the perfect overall training location. Doolittle arrived on Mar. 3, and the intense training began.

The major task at hand was for the crews to master getting a fully loaded, 31,000 pound, B-25 safely airborne in less than 350 feet from a standing start without stalling the aircraft. At sea level, with zero wind and that weight, normal takeoff distance was 3,300 feet. The short takeoff was required because only about 450 feet would be available for takeoff on the USS *Hornet*, since the aft portion of the flight deck would be holding the remaining B-25s. Detailed performance records were kept by the crews for reference and Doolittle and a Navy Lt. Henry Miller evaluated and ranked all crews on their takeoffs at Aux Field 3. By March 24<sup>th</sup>, every crew could be airborne in less than 500 feet. By the end of training, the shortest takeoff distance was 287 feet.

Based on aircraft performance during the training, additional modifications were required to further reduce weight and the poor performing Norden bomb sight was replaced by an in-house developed bombsight dubbed the "Mark Twain", which was highly accurate during training and on the raid.

By the end of the third week of March, 1942, a naval task force built around USS *Enterprise* to protect the USS *Hornet* task force was almost complete and Doolittle was given the message "Tell Jimmy to get on his horse." This was his signal to depart from Eglin Field and proceed to NAS Alameda for loading onto *Hornet*. Twenty two hand-picked crews, led by Doolittle, departed Eglin Field and after a brief stop at McClellan

Field for final inspection and a few additional modifications to the aircraft, arrived at NAS Alameda on March 30<sup>th</sup>. *Hornet* and its 16 B-25s set sail from Alameda on April 1<sup>st</sup> for its date with history.

What the Doolittle Raiders did at Eglin in three weeks was nothing short of phenomenal and outstanding and prepared them well for the challenges that would greet them as they executed the raid.

While the raid did not exact great damage on the Japan proper (homeland), it did have some very favorable near and long term results. The sense of doom and gloom pervasive in America and among her Pacific allies was greatly diminished. In Japan, which had never suffered an enemy attack on its homeland before April 18, 1942, a heightened sense of security need became pervasive. Initially, the Japanese military leadership was forced to recall fighter aircraft squadrons for homeland defense. More importantly, the Japanese leadership was forced to direct their attention from expansion into South Asia and the Indian Ocean to establishing a defensive perimeter eastward towards Hawaii. They also began the planning for an operation to destroy the aircraft carrier capability they had missed at Pearl Harbor. This operation was an absolute disaster for Japan and a resounding victory for the U.S. Navy in the Battle of Midway, June 3-6, 1942 and a turning point in the Pacific War.

In the opinion of this writer, the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders on April 15, 2015 was several decades past due and should have been presented when more of the raiders were still alive. I believe it is one of the finest military medals the Mint has offered and truly depicts the essence of the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders.

Phil Clark



## \$4 DOLLAR GOLD OR 'STELLA'

If your thinking of collecting a 'short set' of coins and you just won the lottery you may want to try collecting the four coin set of U.S. \$4 Gold Coins.

An entire set just recently was sold by Heritage at the CSNS for \$3,525,000.

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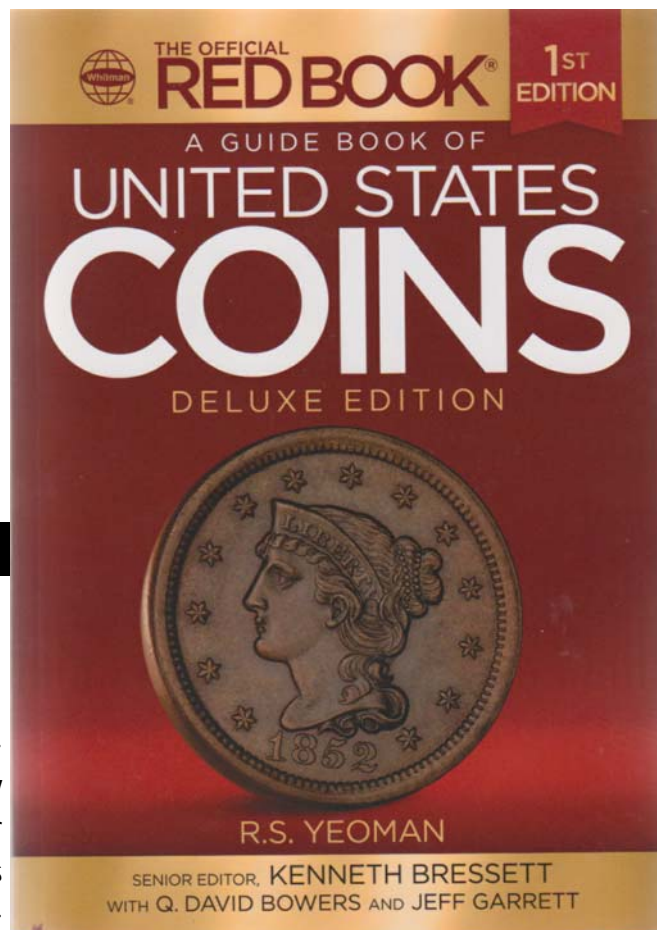
## Book Review

The book for this month is the 1st Edition of the Deluxe Red Book. And Deluxe is a very good description for this book. Although it was released side by side with the standard 2016 Red Book it has no date on the cover. It is surmised by several I have spoke to about this edition that it may not be an annual edition. The Professional Red Books latest edition (#6) comes closest to covering the information contained in this Deluxe edition. I personally would not be surprised if this book permanently replaces the Professional edition.

As for the book it is massive, containing 1504 pages will all illustrations in color. The section covering Half Cents and Large Cents alone covers over 350 pages. The

early dates are covered extensively by variety and number known as well as extensive descriptions. There are extensive chapters on Philippine coinage as well as private tokens, Hawaiian coinage and much much more. All modern commemoratives are well covered. Virtually all grades are covered including all 9 grades for the Standing Liberty Quarter. Significant descriptions are given for virtually all colonial and pre-federal coinage. Coin grading is also very well covered, as you would expect, in much more detail that the standard Red Book.

Pictures of most known varieties as well as many close ups are included



which will help many collector new to variety collecting identify many coins which may possibly already be in their collection.

I could go on and on about what this book contains because there is virtually nothing that is doesn't contain. The price is a relatively hefty at \$49.95 but I have seen the book discounted. If you are an active collector I highly recommend that you add this book to your bookcase.

Doug Nyholm



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Newsletter Editor—  
Doug Nyholm

Articles & Comments Invited

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## Utah Numismatic Society

The Utah Numismatic Society is now enjoying its 62nd year serving collectors in Utah. We sponsor an annual coin show held in Sandy which you may have attended. Our monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday in Salt Lake City. We have many knowledgeable as well as novice and beginning collectors in attendance every month.

Our monthly publication entitled "The Mint Master" contains interesting reading featuring articles such as the 'Counterfeit Corner,' 'Book Reviews,' 'Young Numismatists,' as well as many other numismatic news-worthy columns.

Our meetings include Bourse, Auctions, expert speakers as well as our annual "Youth Night" and "Summer Picnic."

We invite you to attend one of our meetings held at the Columbus Community Center, 2351 S. 400 E., Salt Lake City.

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